

**Film Review & Analysis Project**  
**DUE October 16<sup>th</sup>**

For this assignment, you will write a review and analysis of a film/movie of your choice. Your project that considers the following:

Your review should be organized into the following sections:

**Introduction (1-2 paragraphs):** Includes basic information (title, director, producer, main actors, year of release, any awards nominated for or received); a brief overview of the film as whole—where does it take place? what is it about?

**Connection to Course Topics (about 1.5-2 pages):** What concepts, ideas, or themes in the film relate to what we have studied in the course this semester? Choose at least 3 things from the course of the semester to discuss. Use the course readings and other resources to illustrate your point.

**Evaluation (about 1.5-2 pages):** This is where you will provide a critique of the film considering how the film handles gender as a whole—as you discuss these questions, provide detailed examples from the actual film to illustrate your answers:

- Are the characters examples of gender stereotypes—explain why or why not?
- Does the film exhibit violence against any characters on the basis of gender?
- What power dynamics are at play in the film—how do these relate to gender?

**Conclusion (1-2 paragraphs):** Very briefly summarizes the elements already discussed in the two previous sections and offers an overall judgement (recommendation) about the film.

**General Project Guidelines**

- The paper should be typed in a Times Roman 12pt font and double-spaced with one-inch margins on all sides.
- Include your name, the course number & section, “WGS-1510 Project”, and the date in the upper left corner of the first page.
- Your name and page number should appear on all subsequent pages. In other words, use MLA format.
- You can see an example of an MLA formatted essay on the Purdue OWL website.
- The completed should be at least 4-5 full pages

**Examples of Film Reviews**

One of the best ways to learn how to write a film review is simply by reading good film reviews. You can find examples in most major newspapers and magazines. Check out the arts and entertainment sections of *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, or *Rolling Stone*.

## Useful Links

Internet Movie Database (IMDb):

[www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com)

For quick information about a film, director, actor, producer, or production company, IMDb can't be beat. It is not an ideal place to end your research, but it is a fine place to start.

Duke Writing Studio's "Visual Rhetoric/Visual Literacy: Writing about Film":

[http://twp.duke.edu/uploads/media\\_items/film.original.pdf](http://twp.duke.edu/uploads/media_items/film.original.pdf)

This handout provides an excellent overview of how to approach film as a visual medium. It also discusses several key film terms and formal features that one should pay attention to when moving from a passive to an active viewing experience.

Dartmouth Writing Program Handout on Film:

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~writing/materials/student/humanities/film.shtml>

This handout is more focused on writing about film than on visual literacy, and it discusses different approaches to film (film history, ideological analysis, cultural studies/national cinemas, and auteur theory) not addressed in the Duke Writing Studio handout. It also features a short glossary of film terms.